3: Simutis S-4 (no date) 1942 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

duction did not suffer as much in the agricultural countries as it did in advanced industrial countries. For example, the index of the industrial production of Germany in 1929 fell from 100 to 85.9 in 1930, to 67.6 in 1931, and to 53.3 in 1932. The index of the United States was 80.7 in 1930, 68.1 in 1931, and 53.8 in 1932. At the same time, the index number of the industrial production of Denmark was below 100 only in 1932, when it was 91, while in 1933 it was 105 and in 1934, 117. The index number of the industrial production of Greece continued to stay over 100: in 1930 it was 103.4; in 1931, 107.0; and in 1932, 100.9, while in 1938 it reached 165.1.[4]

Finally, the industry of Lithuania, even with expanded facilities, does not satisfy the demands of its home market. For this reason even during the depression the rate of industrial expansion was not greatly slackened.

Aside from coöperative concerns, analysis of which has been made elsewhere, a great role in the economic life of Lithuania was played by corporations.

In some of them, as in the Maistas and Lietuvos Cukrus corporations, the majority of stock is held by the government.

At the end of 1939 there were 137 corporations in Lithuania with total capitalization of 205,442,000 litas. The banking group comprised 8 units with total capitalization of 89,000,000 litas or 43 percent of total capital of the corporations of Lithuania. Next in importance comes food industry with 20 corporations and 28,345,000 litas combined capital followed by 4 electricity supply corporations with 25,100,000 litas of capital stock.

[4] League of Nations, *Statistical Year-Book 1939–40.*

3: Simutis S-4 (no date) 1942 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

With the Sovietization of Lithuania by Russia all those corporations were nationalized in August, 1940, and made government establishments. On August 7, 1940, an order was published requesting even the surrender of the shares of capital stock and bonds of private corporations or government.[5] No due compensation was promised.

When Russian occupation was substituted by German in June, 1941, the system of private ownership was returned in Lithuania, except private, corporate, or coöperative wealth, which apparently is kept for distribution to German nationals or at least to German sympathizers.

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The textile industry showed a spectacular rise between 1927 and 1940. But even before this period it had shown considerable advance. It is estimated that in the years 1909 to 1913 this industry in Lithuania employed about 300 workers.[6] In 1927 the number of workers had grown to 1,403, almost five times as many as before the World War, while in 1939 the industry was employing 7,561 workers.

It is interesting to note that in spite of increasing textile production at home, imports did not decrease proportionately. This may be accounted for partly by the fact that rising living standards increased the demand to such an extent that even the increased production was not sufficient to satisfy it without the aid of proportionately high imports. Lithuania does not export any textile fabrics.

The expanding textile industry modifies the type of textile

[5] *Darbo Lietuva* No. 50, Aug. 13, 1940. (*Darbo Lietuva* [Worker's Lithuania] was a Bolshevik daily in Kaunas, established after the occupation.)

[6] L.G.S.A., 1937, p. 405.

3: Simutis S-4 (no date) 1942 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

TABLE 37

THE FOODSTUFFS INDUSTRIES

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INDUSTRY	1927		1930		1935		1938		1939	
	Establishments	*Employees*	*Establishments*	*Employees*	*Establishments*	*Employees*	*Establishments*	*Employees*	*Establishments*	*Employees*
Grain mills	83	778	74	638	83	619	99	761	96	706
Bakeries	21	156	29	212	43	319	53	465	46	469
Sugar refineries	—	—	—	—	1	133	2	262	2	246
Candy and chocolate factories	40	760	42	866	29	583	36	761	28	657
Slaughterhouses and meat, fish, and canned goods establishments	20	362	20	281	21	1,029	25	1,721	15	1,787 [a]
Milk-product plants	4	26	18	114	110	407	114	507	102	458
Breweries	10	350	10	351	10	246	11	602	9	553
Tobacco and cigarette factories	12	734	10	695	9	574	8	569	6	546

[a] Before Klaipeda Territory cession: 26 establishments with 1,987 workers.

The Maistas Corporation was originally organized in 1923
●473 for the purpose of concentrating on the export of eggs and dairy products, but later its activities were turned to organizing slaughterhouses and to producing and exporting meat and canned products.[7] The original capital of the Maistas Corporation was 500,000 litas, consisting of 5,000 shares at 100 litas par value. The first years of the corporation were not only nonprosperous, but the balance for July 1, 1924, showed a loss of 463,237.60 litas. This loss was covered by stockholders in proportional payments according to the stock

[7] *Pirmas Maisto Desimtmetis 1923–1933 Metai* (Maistas's First Decade, 1923–1933), Kaunas, 1933, p. 28.

3: Simutis S-4 (no date) 1942 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

held. The first loss did not discourage the promoters, however. In 1925 the capital stock of the corporation was raised to 10,000,000 litas. This increase was motivated by the fact that in constructing the first stockyard the corporation had indebted itself to this amount. But even then the prospects of the corporation were not very encouraging. Private owners soon sought to rid themselves of the stock held, which at the end of 1925 was absorbed by such important organizations as the Union of Farmers of Lithuania, 2,250 shares; the Union of Agricultural Coöperative Societies of Lithuania (Lietukis), 2,000 shares; the coöperative society Lietuvos Eksimportas, 670 shares; and by many smaller units subscribing to their proportionate number of shares. Thus the Maistas Corporation, having been founded as a strictly private enterprise, became an important public enterprise. In March of 1930 the by-laws of the corporation were changed to comply with the new laws of the state and on March 22, 1930, the company was newly incorporated. In the same year the government of Lithuania purchased part of the stock of the corporation for 3,000,000 litas and later an additional portion for 4,000,000 litas. The Maistas Corporation therefore became an institution known in English-speaking countries as a mixed enterprise, from the point of view of control. In 1938, as has already been stated, it owned five stockyards in the most important cities of Lithuania. Its meat and livestock export rose from 226,106 litas in 1923 to 35,420,949 litas in 1932 and 42,720,000 litas in 1936, the last amount representing 22.4 percent of the total value of the country's exports.[8]

The organization showed an exceptionally spectacular rise in exports in the last two years before Soviet Russian occu-

[8] Kriksciunas, *op. cit.*, p. 151.

433 438 considerable part of the wool and cotton spinning and weaving, the timber sawing, furniture manufacture, the foodstuffs and luxury goods industry, &c. is situated in Kaunas.

In Memel is located the largest part of the timber industry (sawing, plywood supply, and cellulose production), the predominant portion of the wool and cotton industry (two-thirds), the artificial fertilizer industry, a considerable share of the foodstuffs and luxury goods industry (meat treatment, tobacco manufacture), &c.

In Šiauliai are concentrated 85% of the Lithuanian leather industry (tanning), nearly 60% of the footwear industry, and two-thirds of the flax treatment industry. In the district of Šiauliai (at Pavenčiai) is situated a sugar factory (the second in Lithuania) which was established in 1935. In Šiauliai itself also four chocolate and sugar ware factories are in operation.

Besides the foregoing three principal centres of industry should also be mentioned: **Panevėžys**, where are situated the biggest Lithuanian milling concerns, also a meat-canning factory of the „Maistas" Company and a large enterprise of the flax treatment industry; **Marijampolė**, with the first sugar factory founded in 1931 and several sawmills; **Plungė** and **Telšiai**, with two of the largest Lithuanian linen factories; **Tauragė**, with a meat wares factory of „Maistas"; **Rokiškis**, with a textile factory (wool weaving) and several dairy-farms; lastly, **Vilkaviškis**, which harbours a third of the Lithuanian underclothing manufacture, an enterprise for fur dressing and the largest bristle treatment concern.

4. The Rôle of the Joint-stock Companies

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The development of the joint-stock capital invested in industry has proceeded as follows:

Year	Total No. of jointstock Cos.	Share-capital in 1000 litas	Proportion of Foreign Capital
1928	56	69 059	7 600*)
1929	57	70 434	7 400*)
1930	62	85 851	19 400*)

*) Without Memel.

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1931	69	89 794	32 433	
1932	76	90 874	32 547	
1933	84	98 675	34 733	
1934	83	105 979	43 274	
1935	84	105 465	45 207	
1936	85	107 372	44 881	
1937	88	110 883	47 969	

On the strength of these data we may conclude that the financing of industry in the form of share-capital concurrently with the development of wholesale manufacture in Lithuania is constantly growing; it amounts to approximately a third of all capital invested in industry. The number of industrial concerns, which are organized as joint-stock companies, has risen by 57.1% during ten years, from 1928 to 1937, and the total amount of the share-capital by 60.6% in the same period.

The share of foreign capital amounts to 43.3% and is 471
chiefly invested in electricity works, the paper industry, and the chemical industry. The largest portion thereof, i. e. 18 200 000 litas or 35% pertains to-day to Belgium; 12 100 000 litas or 23% to Germany; 6 200 000 litas or 11% to Sweden; and 5 500 000 or 10% to Holland.

Approximately 15 000 000 litas represents the investments 652
of the Lithuanian Government, of which the sum of 7 000 000 litas pertains to the „Maistas" Company and 2 700 000 litas to „Lietuvos Cukrus".

The share of Lithuanian private capital in the total share- 454
capital invested in industry amounts therefore to 45%.

The distribution of industrial joint-stock companies accord- 473
ing to individual branches and its development during recent years may be seen from Table No. 2.

Thus in 1937 the relatively largest part of the total share-capital pertained to the foodstuffs and luxury goods industry, which possessed 21 undertakings with 27 900 000 litas capital. Among these were 4 mills, 3 chocolate factories, 1 company for sugar production („Lietuvos Cukrus"), 2 undertakings of the meat industry, 3 spirit distilleries, and 4 beer breweries. The number of undertakings has been stationary since 1933; also the capital during the last five years shows only small fluctuations, but in comparison with 1928 it has risen by 66%.

6: Anonymous U-4, 6 (no date) 1938 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

Table No. 2.

The Total Number of Industrial Joint-stock Companies according to Branches and their Capital in 1 000 litas during 1928—1937

	1928		1929		1930		1931		1932		1933		1934		1935		1936		1937	
	No.	Cap.	No.	Cap.	No.	Cap.	No.	Cap.	No.	Cap.	No.	Cap.	No.	Cap.	No.	Cap.	No.	Cap.	No.	Cap.
1. Peat-cutting	1	280	1	280	1	280	1	140	1	140	1	140	1	140	1	70	1	70	1	70
2. Stone & Earth Industry	4	2 610	4	2 610	4	2 480	2	1 250	3	1 430	3	1 430	4	1 530	4	1 530	1	1 330	4	1 450
3. Metal & Machinery Industry	9	19 079	8	18 413	8	16 539	8	16 665	7	16 565	8	16 387	9	16 537	8	16 062	10	16 306	8	16 050
4. Chemical Industry	3	470	5	1 720	5	6 720	5	6 720	7	6 920	10	8 070	9	8 100	9	8 100	9	8 028	10	9 028
5. Leather Industry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	250	1	250
6. Textile Industry	4	1 850	5	2 400	6	3 600	9	4 860	10	5 260	10	5 360	11	6 560	11	7 035	11	7 055	16	9 705
7. Timber Industry	3	1 762	5	3 168	5	2 062	7	3 162	7	3 662	7	3 662	7	3 662	7	3 662	7	3 662	7	3 185
8. Paper & Polygraphic Industry	6	17 450	7	18 160	8	18 260	9	18 760	11	18 960	12	19 110	10	19 510	10	19 290	9	19 240	8	18 890
9. Foodstuffs & Luxury Goods Industry	21	16 808	16	15 230	16	18 730	19	24 746	19	26 846	21	27 415	21	27 390	21	26 915	21	26 630	21	27 930
10. Clothing Industry	1	750	2	1 250	3	2 240	5	2 890	7	3 190	8	3 700	7	3 150	8	3 300	8	3 300	8	3 225
11. Building Industry	1	500	1	1 000	1	1 000	1	1 000	1	1 000	1	1 000	1	1 000	2	1 100	2	1 100	2	1 100
12. Electricity Works	2	6 000	2	6 000	3	12 400	3	12 400	3	12 400	3	12 400	3	18 400	3	18 400	3	18 400	2	20 000

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The next largest item consists of both electricity works with 20 000 000 litas share-capital, which has more than quadrupled during ten years. 473

In the third and fourth place are classed the joint-stock companies from the branches of the paper industry with 18 900 000 litas capital, and the metal industry with 16 000 000 litas capital. The number of related undertakings and therefore also the total sum of capital slightly receded in 1937.

A steep ascent is shown by the number and capital of the companies of the textile branch. The number of companies from 1928 to 1937 rose from 4 to 16 and their capital from 1 800 000 litas to 9 700 000 litas.

The joint-stock companies of the chemical industry during the last ten years also increased from 3 to 10 and their capital rose from 400 000 litas to 9 000 000 litas. In this connexion may be mentioned the foundation of a match company in 1930, „Inkaras" in 1933, and „Guma" in 1937.

The companies of the clothing and footwear industry quadrupled their capital during the last decade, and it now amounts to 3 200 000 litas. Also the share-capital pertaining to the timber industry doubled in round figures during the same interval, and also amounts to 3 200 000 litas.

The capital of the joint-stock companies of the remaining industrial branches is less noteworthy.

On the basis of the foregoing data, we may arrive at the following conclusions with regard to the development tendency of separate special branches: 433

1. The milling industry showed in 1931, in comparison with 1927, a decline in the number of concerns and their staffs, but in recent years a recovery and an advance ensued. This phenomenon related, however, only to the medium and wholesale concerns appearing in our table, which employ at least five persons. Precisely in the milling industry the small concerns are in an overwhelming majority, and these show quite another development tendency. On the basis of the statistics of the trade licences, we may conclude that the total number of all milling concerns, which in 1928 amounted to 1 334, by 1932 had risen to 1 472, but since then until 1937 a reduction of 1 402 has ensued. It is obvious from the foregoing that the reduction in the number of larger milling undertakings until 1931 was due to the process of decentralization, while, on the other hand, in recent years the concentration tendency, combined with more intensive mechanization, has been in the ascendant. 256 433

2. The creation of the sugar industry followed in 1931, when with the participation of the Government the joint-stock company „Lietuvos Cukrus" was established. The first sugar factory was then put in operation at Marijampolė, and in 1935 the opening of a second factory at Pavenčiai ensued. 257 483 [473]

3. The sugar wares and chocolate industry since 1931 has shown a decline in the number of concerns and of employed workers; but the undermentioned production figures, which reveal constant growth, prove that this phenomenon is solely attributable to centralization and mechanization.

4. The number of concerns of the meat industry is stationary. Its growth is, however, illustrated by the quintupling of the number of employed workers which has taken place since 1927. The joint-stock company „Maistas", to whose capital the Government contributes 7 000 000 litas, assumes a monopoly position. It was founded in 1923, but its activity on a wider scale began in 1930. „Maistas" owns to-day five factories, i. e. at Kaunas, Memel, Šiauliai, Panevėžys, and Tauragė. In each factory the manufacture of bacon takes first place, but sausage wares and ham are also prepared. The concerns at Kaunas and Panevėžys produce also canned goods, that at Kaunas also insu- 253 478 433

lin. Preserving cans are repaired in its own workshops. Moreover, at Kaunas a modern abattoir of „Maistas" has been built for municipal requirements. (The rôle of „Maistas" in our trade is described in the section „Share-capital in Lithuanian Trade").

5. The dairy-farms show an exemplary growth tempo. The development of Lithuanian butter production is due to the Central Union of Dairy-farming Cooperatives „Pienocentras", concerning whose activity a more detailed report is given in the subsequent section „The Rôle of the Cooperative Societies". The figures contained in the foregoing tables relate moreover only to the larger concerns; the total number of all dairy-farms of the dairy cooperatives included in the production statistics amounted in 1937 to 188.

6. The number of workers employed in the spirit distilleries remained stationary during the period 1927—1937, whereas the number of concerns rose from 26 to 38.

7. The development of beer breweries showed no material changes from 1927 to 1931. The number of employed workers since the curtailment between 1932 and 1936 for the first time in 1937 exceeded the figures for 1927.

8. The number of tobacco and cigarette factories and their staffs has decreased since 1931, which was occasioned chiefly by the decline of consumption during the time of crisis.

From the standpoint of the number of undertakings, the mills and dairy-farms constitute the two strongest groups of the foodstuffs industry. According to the number of employed workers, the meat and canned goods industry and the sugar industry head the list, although it must be borne in mind that as regards the last-named, the production campaign lasts only a few months.

b. The Development of Production

The total value of the gross production of the foodstuffs and luxury goods industry in 1937 amounted to 178 300 000 litas and the net production to 50 400 000.

These figures are distributed among separate branches as follows (in 1 000 litas):

7. The Chemical Industry.

381 To the chemical industry in 1937 accrued 4.3% of the
433 industrial workers; 2.3% of the engine horse-power; 4.9% of the gross value; and 6.3% of the net value of Lithuania's industrial production. In pre-war Lithuania there were only two match factories and one fertilizer factory; other branches were almost non-existent. In independent Lithuania many new undertakings are springing up. The development of separate branches proceeds, however, unequally, as we can gather from the following data:

[464]

	1927		1931			1937		
	No. of Concerns	No. of Workers	No. of Concerns	No. of Workers	Capacity of Engines in H. P.	No. of Concerns	No. of Workers	Capacity of Engines in H. P.
Total	49	885	48	724	1 244	48	1 344	2 848
Including:								
Match Production	5	326	2	158	213	1	52	140
Soap Production	15	174	15	189	118	12	158	362
Rubber Goods	—	—	—	—		1	620	
Fertilizer Factories	2	109	1	130		1	141	
Colours, Turpentine and Technical Fats	7	69	10	66	913	14	151	2 346
Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Production	4	30	6	47		9	98	

464 The sharpest decline in the number of undertakings and workers is shown by the match industry. The curtailment in 1931 to two concerns with 158 workers against five undertakings with 326 workers in 1927 may be ascribed to the [655] creation in 1930 of the State Match Monopoly and the transfer [473] of the same to the „Lietuvos degtukų akcinė bendrovė" (Lithuanian Joint-stock Match Company) founded with Swedish capital. The still lower position in 1937 was occasioned by the decrease in consumption, which in the analysis of production 388 will be more closely discussed. The staffs of the soap factories 387 show a slight reduction. The number of the workers employed 464 in the Memel Fertilizer Factory has since 1931 only slightly increased.

B. HOME TRADE

● 473 **1. The Total Number and Classification of Commercial Undertakings.**

In accordance with the information of the last census, there were in Lithuania between 1923 and 1925 in all 18 164 commercial undertakings with 37 487 employed persons. Of these, 1 581 undertakings with 5 057 persons pertained to the Memel Territory. On the basis of the statistics of the trade licences, 24 380 commercial undertakings were enumerated in Lithuania Major in 1937. Since the number of concerns in the Memel Territory is estimated at 1 800, the total number of commercial undertakings in the whole of Lithuania may amount to over 26 000, which for the last fifteen years implies a growth of over 40%.

A closer analysis of the statistical data forces us, however, to the conclusion that the rising tendency of our home trade- as regards the promotion initiative of individual undertakings- had already in 1931 reached its peak, and that since then the total number of commercial undertakings has materially failen and still remains below that level.

The following table affords a review of the development from 1927—1937, conjointly with classification according to corporations:

Year	Total	I. Corp.	II. Corp.	III. Corp.	IV. Corp.	V. Corp.	I-III. Corp.
1927	20 959	124	3 584	12 433	3 837	981	16 141
1928	22 581	130	3 703	13 242	4 641	865	17 075
1929	22 429	125	3 679	13 312	4 767	546	17 116
1930	22 652	145	3 589	13 583	4 727	608	17 317
1931	22 767	170	3 615	13 602	4 654	727	17 387

1932	21 505	149	3 248	13 096	4 441	571	16 493
1933	20 793	127	2 894	12 482	4 828	462	15 503
1934	20 177	115	2 629	12 106	4 851	476	14 830
1935	21 981	110	2 567	11 478	5 745	2 081	14 145
1936	23 313	105	2 537	11 770	6 497	2 404	14 412
1937	24 380	120	2 552	12 445	6 793	2 470	15 117

The figures contained in the first column show for 1937 an appreciably increased total of undertakings in comparison with 1931, but we see that the principal growth, i. e. more than 3 000 concerns, ensued in the years 1935 and 1936. As is known, the Patent Tax for both industry and trade was considerably increased in 1935, the result being that many small traders, who had until then been exempt from the Patent Tax, since 1935 have had to take out a trade licence of the IV. or V. class. This supplementary tax naturally resulted in 1935 and to a great extent also in 1936 in a considerable increase of the total of the trade licences taken out, and solely this circumstance explains the statistical growth of the total figures of commercial undertakings in 1937 over the position of 1931. The figures classified according to corporations show this clearly; only the IV. and V. corporations affected by the supplementary tax since 1935 have appreciably surpassed the level of 1931.

Only the figures concerning the three first corporations afford comparable quantities and only these may therefore be adduced for a description of the contingent development of our home trade. The relevant figures in the last column of the foregoing table show us that the total number of commercial concerns steadily grew until 1931, but from 1932 to 1935 decreased by approximately one-fifth, and during the last two years, especially 1937, has again slightly risen. Although during the period of revival approximately 1 000 new undertakings were promoted, the position of 1927 could not once be reached in 1937; in comparison with 1931 the recession amounted to 13.1%.

The above cited figures relate to all commercial trade-licences, also therefore to the hotel business, credit and insurance companies, &c. It is therefore advisable to examine the statistics on the inner structure of commercial concerns, from which the following data emerge:

6: Anonymous U-45 (no date) 1938 RBS Lithuanians RBS

Structure of the Commercial Undertakings in Lithuania Major and its Development from 1929—1937.

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	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Total number of trade licences	22 429	22 652	22 767	21 505	20 793	20 177	21 981	23 313	24 380
I. Commercial Concerns in a narrower sense	18 018	18 132	17 945	16 937	17 069	16 132	17 056	17 336	18 108
II. Hawker's trade	719	641	535	710	222	496	1 640	2 257	2 135
III. Auxiliary branches of trade (middlemen, &c.)	496	514	746	601	544	600	559	786	907
IV. Hotel Business	2 556	2 693	2 831	2 604	2 283	2 094	1 970	2 055	2 301
V. Credit and Insurance	102	100	90	91	83	78	74	147	149
VI. Other Commercial Undertakings	538	572	620	562	592	597	682	732	780

The figures quoted under paragraph 1, segregated in this manner, of commercial concerns in a narrower sense, depict more accurately the development tendency of our home-trade than the amounts of all trade-licences. Through the segregation of the hawker's trade, the misleading operation of the tax law variations is to a large extent, if not entirely, eliminated. Classified according to categories, the development of commercial concerns in a narrower sense appears as under:

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Year	Total	Wholesale Trade (I. & II. Corp.)	Large-scale Retail Trade (III. Corp.)	Small-scale Retail Trade (IV. & V. Corp.)
1929	18 018	3 297	10.958	3 763
1930	18 132	3 179	11 045	3 908
1931	17 945	3 208	10 933	3 804
1932	16 937	2 830	10 760	3 347
1933	17 069	2 481	10 500	4 088
1934	16 132	2 284	10 288	3 740
1935	17 056	2 182	9 852	5 022
1936	17 336	2 220	9 834	5 282
1937	18 108	2 273	10 172	5 663

As regards, in the first place, the last column relating to small-scale retail trade, the fluctuations from 1932—1934 were elicited by transitory statistical-technical difficulties in the separation of the hawker's trade, and for that reason possess no contingent significance. The same remark applies to the buoyant growth in 1935, which is attributable to the augmentation of the patent duty. The two remaining sets of figures regarding wholesale and large-scale retail trade indicate, despite a slight rise, particularly in 1937, a recession, which in comparison with 1929 amounts to 32.8% for wholesale trade, and to 7.2% for large-scale retail trade.

The circumstance that the number of wholesale commercial undertakings has suffered a decidedly more severe percentage recession than that of the large-scale retail concerns, proves that the shrinkage of promotion initiative in the framework of our home-trade cannot be interpreted as a consequence of the general concentration process of wholesale commercial undertakings at the cost of large-scale and small-scale retail trade, as in a certain sense it makes itself observable in the sphere of industry. The total of industrial concerns moreover shows no recession, but on the contrary a steady growth. In the framework of the total number, only the wholesale concerns are growing horizontally and vertically more rapidly than the small-scale retail ones. The dynamic of the development of our home-trade is, however, a diametrically opposite one: the total number of undertakings declines; the small-scale retail concerns show, after rectification of the statistical distortion in 1935-6, even a slight growth. Large-scale retail trade is receding only negligibly; and the number of wholesale commercial undertakings is shrinking most sharply. It may also be not uninteresting in this connexion to compare the figures of the complete categories of commercial and industrial trade licences with one another. This comparison gives the following characteristic result:

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Wholesale Industrial Undertakings (I.—V. Class)	241	263	271	251	246	256	272	349	406
In %	100	109	112	104	102	106	113	145	168
Wholesale Commercial Undertakings (I.—II. Corp.)	3 297	3 179	3 208	2 830	2 481	2 284	2 182	2 220	2 273
In %	100	96	97	86	75	69	66	67	69

● 473 An examination of the classification of commercial undertakings (in a narrower sense) according to separate branches shows us, however, that the above indicated shrinkage process in the number of undertakings is in no way a generally applicable phenomenon for all branches. On the contrary, the decrease of undertakings is confined to certain special branches only, while other branches are even increasing. The following table best illustrates this development.

Classification of Commercial Undertakings in a narrower Sense according to Separate Branches.

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
1. Foodstuffs and Luxury Goods Trade	11 635	11 783	11 851	11 467	11 489	11 103	11 590	11 681	11 909
2. Agricultural Products	2 574	2 497	2 177	1 756	1 750	1 611	1 641	1 612	1 824
3. Combustibles ..	488	484	370	317	309	323	314	338	383
4. Machinery and Vehicles	234	249	257	154	156	127	122	126	157
5. Metal Wares and Furniture	580	477	532	555	556	514	570	749	768
6. Textiles and Clothing	1 586	1 574	1 664	1 694	1 723	1 576	1 641	1 662	1 813
7. Fancy Goods ..	416	509	571	490	595	500	651	650	686
8. Other Special Trades	505	559	523	504	491	458	514	518	568

The foregoing comparison comprises for the sake of completeness the commercial concerns in a narrower sense of all five corporations together which, it is true, suffers from the drawback that the data for 1932—1934, on the already examined statistical-technical grounds, are slightly distorted (this is chiefly the case for the textile branch) and the final figures of the three last years have been reckoned somewhat too high (especially for agricultural products*). Nevertheless the table correctly reflects the general development tendency. Thus we may assume that there are only three branches in which the employer's initiative was manifestly hampered,

*) For agricutural products in the first three corporations the reduced figures for 1929 amount to 1 271, and for 1937 to 672, which implies a recession of nearly 50%.

while the remaining branches reveal an average firm development tendency. The branches with shrinkage symptoms are: Trade in agricultural products (grain, flax, dairy supplies, eggs, cattle, poultry); trade in combustibles (timber, coal, and naphtha); and trade in machinery and vehicles. There are therefore involved only those branches of trade which, during recent years, have been passing more and more out of the hands of private promoters into the sphere of activity of the commercial cooperatives and the „Maistas" Joint-stock Company, which must inevitably automatically cause a decrease in the number of enterprises of the corresponding branches, the more so since most of the commercial cooperatives are exempt from the Patent Tax and are not included in the total figures of commercial undertakings which are calculated on the basis of the trade-licences issued. The enormous rise of the goods turnover of the „Maistas" Joint-stock Company and the cooperatives is described in the following section.

*

* *

As regards the geographical distribution of commercial undertakings, besides Kaunas and Memel, Šiauliai and Panevėžys are the most important commercial centres of Lithuania. The following table depicts the development of the geographical distribution of wholesale and large-scale retail commercial concerns in a wider sense (I.-III. Corporations) in Lithuania Major from 1929—1937.

Geographical Distribution of Commercial Concerns.

Year	Total	Kaunas (City)	Šiauliai (District)	Panevėžys (District)
1929	17 116	2 418	1 846	1 128
1930	17 317	2 453	1 808	1 168
1931	17 387	2 654	1 782	1 172
1932	16 493	2 723	1 773	1 074
1933	15 503	2 674	1 717	1 047
1934	14 830	2 671	1 704	991
1935	14 145	2 532	1 634	949
1936	14 412	2 593	1 666	1 010
1937	15 117	2 690	1 662	1 018

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We see from the foregoing data that notwithstanding the decrease in the total figures, the number of Kaunas concerns in the period under review has grown; in consequence of this the percentage share of Kaunas has also risen from 14.1% in 1929 to 17.8% in 1937. The biggest rise in the number of Kaunas concerns falls to 1931—1932, when in connexion with tariff-technical facilities a number of import firms removed their headquarters from the small frontier town of Virbalis to Kaunas, and to 1936—1937, in the wake of the general economic upward trend. The wholesale commercial concerns, i. e. undertakings of the I. corporation, are, moreover, for the most part concentrated in Kaunas; of the 120 corresponding enterprises of Lithuania, 76 have their headquarters in that city.

While, as shown above, the total number of wholesale and large-scale retail commercial concerns in the rest of Lithuania has suffered an absolute reduction during the past decade, in spite of the revival of the last two years, the growth of commercial concerns in the Memel Territory is estimated at approximately 15%. This phenomenon is to be explained in the first place by the growth of the port trade (see the following chapter for details), which induced various firms to remove their headquarters to Memel or at least to open permanent branches at the port.

2. Total Figures of Goods Turnover

The statistical comprehension of the goods turnover of home-trade in the nature of things encounters greater difficulties than the calculation of the foreign trade turnover. The large number of small undertakings, among them the hawker's trade which with us is still relatively widespread and difficult mathematically to grasp, and most of all the absence still of any sharp cleavage between wholesale and retail business generally aggravate the task of determining the total amounts of the turnover and render their clarification from parallelism quite impossible. The State Central Statistical Bureau on these grounds has hitherto published no relevant data.

One must therefore be content only with substitute figures and estimates. As such may be mentioned: The data on tax receipts; the foreign trade turnover; the reports of the coope-

rative societies (which, however, in the first place reflect only the constantly growing rôle of the cooperatives in our economic life and therefore do not permit any conclusions on the turnover of the total home-trade) and, finally, the results of an inquiry organized by our Chamber of Commerce.

In the tax statistics contingent postponements during separate years are expressed only in a distorted form, because the tax receipts of each single year, besides the taxes assessed on the basis of the turnover in the previous year, contain also arrears from earlier years. Naturally, therefore, the contingent position of the payment year, and not the assessment year, is conclusive for the payment receipts. Bearing in mind the foregoing objections, the tax statistics none the less provide a certain guide and afford us, in the absence of other sources, a summary over a larger series of years.

According to the reports of the State Control, the tax receipts (without the Memel Territory) from trade from 1930—1936, were as follows (in 1 000 litas):

Year	Total	Patent Tax	Profit Tax
1930	8 182.7	2 458.3	5 724.4
1931	8 231.1	2 250.9	5 980.2
1932	7 901.5	2 306.4	5 595.1
1933	7 027.7	1 894.6	5 133.1
1934	6 357.9	2 014.7	4 343.2
1935	6 662.1	2 026.2	4 635.9
1936	6 852.3	1 997.9	4 854.4

The second column respecting the Patent Tax once more confirms the accuracy of the deductions of the former section in regard to the reduction in the number of undertakings of wholesale and large-scale retail trade, and shows that even the extension of tax liability to hitherto tax-free small enterprises in 1935 could not compensate for the decline in the Patent Tax returns.

The third column respecting the Profit Tax, for the reasons above discussed, may only with reserve be regarded as a substitute reflecting the trade turnover. Nevertheless, for the purpose of comparison of the development tendencies of trade and industry, it can, in the first place, be contrasted with the analogous data on the industry tax receipts; the accuracy of the

651 comparison cannot be doubted because equivalent factors are
● 473 involved. This contrast furnishes the following result:

Profit Tax in 1 000 litas	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Industry	2 640.6	2 743.3	2 217.5	2 606.7	2 373.3	2 463.2	3 177.2
Trade	5 724.4	5 980.2	5 595.1	5 133.1	4 343.2	4 635.9	4 854.4

On the basis of the foregoing comparative figures, we may reckon that in comparison with 1930 the taxation capacity of industry in 1936 increased by 20%, whereas simultaneously the Profit Tax returns of trade receded by 15%.

This comparison fully illustrates that the position of trade
439 is much more unfavourable than that of industry, which is
473 chiefly due to three factors:

1. The large share of foreign trade in the total goods turnover (direct export and import can be estimated at approximately 40%, and by adding the turnover between wholesale and retail trade the share exceeds 60%) renders our trade to a greater degree dependent upon the fluctuations of the world trend than is the case with our youthful industry, which works chiefly for the home market.

2. For the same reasons, in the sphere of trade, in connexion with the international shrinkage of import, quotas and compensation agreements, private initiative seems far more hampered than in relation to industry.

3. The vigorous growth of the cooperatives, whose object is as far as possible to eliminate intermediate trade, was bound in the nature of things to aggravate the position of private trade in corresponding branches and thereby force down the total turnover amount.

We shall, it is true, in the further course of our deductions see that the decrease in the trade turnover is only an **ad valorem** one, and that its quantitative scope has even increased. This fact, however, in no way prejudices the validity of what has already been stated, because the proportion between the comparative taxation figures relating to trade and industry is not displaced thereby but remains identical.

651 In view of the fact that in crisis years, when the amount
439 of the trade turnover sinks, tax assessments for budgetary
473 reasons as a rule are imposed too high, this circumstance must be taken into consideration for the purpose of the index calcu-

lation of the trade turnover on the basis of the tax statistics, and an appropriate clarification effected.

To reinforce this assertion we compare first of all the percentage development of the Profit Tax receipts from 1930—1936 (the tax is valid at times for the preceding year) with the index already calculated in the previous chapter of the ad valorem development of our foreign trade turnover from 1929—1935. We obtain in this manner the two following sets of figures:

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
Foreign Trade Turnover..	100.0	101.5	86.6	55.9	47.5	44.9	44.1
Trade Turnover on the basis of tax receipts	100.0	105.5	97.7	89.7	75.9	80.9	84.8

One must bear in mind that the home-trade turnover, especially in respect of commodities of fixed demand (chiefly foodstuffs) which constitute the relatively most important item of the turnover, is far less subject to trend fluctuations than foreign trade. The growth of domestic industrial production must likewise extend the scope of the home-trade turnover. On the other hand, however, one may not forget that the retrogression of our foreign trade turnover is in the first instance due to the fall of prices, and that its quantitative scope, as has been demonstrated in a previous chapter, even in the crisis years remained above the level of 1929. The fall of prices has approximately in the same manner affected the foreign and home-trade turnovers. If therefore the tax receipts correctly reflected the trade turnover, then this would mean, in consideration of the high percentage share of foreign trade, that the home-trade in inland goods already in 1935 had attained a turnover which, in comparison with 1929, was ad valorem one and a half times, and quantitatively three times larger, which, it goes without saying, cannot correspond to reality.

On the basis of reliable estimates, the turnover assessments of the Tax Inspectorate in the crisis years, in relation to the firms with non-public accounting, were fixed too high. Since on the firms with public accounting, for which the tax is assessed according to the actual turnover, approximately one-fifth of the Profit Tax total devolves, the figures for the total receipts since 1932 have had to be cut down a quarter in round figures in order to depict the real total turnover.

3. Share-capital in Lithuanian Trade

The rôle of joint-stock companies in the total figure of our wholesale commercial undertakings is relatively unimportant. In 1937 there were in Lithuania only 32 joint-stock companies, which were engaged in merchandise trade, in a narrower sense, with a total capital of 8 900 000 litas; and three companies engaged in the warehousing and forwarding business with a share-capital of 300 000 litas. Only a few companies among these have a share-capital of more than a million litas, while for half of all the companies the capital amounts to less than 200 000 litas. The development since 1928 is clear from the following table:

Year	No. of Companies	Share-capital in 1 000 litas	Year	No. of Companies	Share-capital in 1 000 litas
1928	14	3 211	1933	32	9 485
1929	19	5 725	1934	32	8 640
1930	22	7 100	1935	31	9 057
1931	28	9 400	1936	30	8 232
1932	32	9 759	1937	32	8 907

We see from the foregoing that the number of commercial undertakings organized as joint-stock companies has remained stationary since 1932, and that the total amount of their capital since then has decreased by 9%.

The development of the participation of foreign capital in our commercial organizations shows, just as the reduction of foreign indebtedness described in another chapter, the progressive emancipation of our economy from alien influence and its financial strengthening. The share of foreign capital has fallen from 24.5% in 1931 to 6.1% in 1937. The following figures illustrate the course of this development:

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Foreign Capital in Lithuanian Joint-stock Companies, in 1 000 Litas	2 310	2 305	1 870	1 747	920	260	544

In the above quoted total figure of commercial joint-stock companies our most important commercial organization is not

473 included, because, since it simultaneously belongs to the biggest industrial enterprises, it is shown among the latter. This remark refers to the „Maistas" Joint-stock Company, whose rôle in our foodstuffs industry has already been discussed in the relevant section. The following figures relate therefore solely to its share in our trade turnover.

The „Maistas" Company, 69.8% of whose shares are held by the Government, has since 1935 virtually monopolized the entire export trade of Lithuania in meat, cattle, and poultry (the residue pertains to frontier trade) and therefore as a single enterprise in 1937 reached a share of 22.5% in Lithuania's total exports. Its total foreign and home-trade turnover amounted to 60 000 000 litas and was exceeded only by that of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives, „Lietūkis".

473 439 The following table illustrates the course of growth of the share of „Maistas" in our export trade during the last ten years („Maistas" has been operating already since 1923, but began to play an important part in our economy, properly speaking, only after 1930):

Year	Total Lithuanian Exports of Cattle, Poultry, Ham, and Meat Products, in Million Litas	Share in Total Export Trade	Total Export of „Maistas" in Mil. Lt.	Percentage Share of „Maistas" in: Exports of Cattle, Poultry, Meat, Ham, &c.	the Total Export Trade
1928	31.8	12.4%	1.3	4.0%	0.5%
1929	69.1	20.9%	5.9	8.6%	1.8%
1930	107.3	32.2%	24.8	23.2%	7.4%
1931	112.9	41.3%	42.9	38.1%	15.8%
1932	68.5	36.2%	42.8	62.5%	22.6%
1933	63.0	39.3%	42.3	67.2%	26.4%
1934	45.3	30.8%	34.9	77.0%	23.7%
1935	34.4	22.6%	32.7	95.1%	21.5%
1936	48.1	25.2%	42.7	88.8%	22.4%
1937	51.9	24.9%	46.9	90.3%	22.5%

The principal export articles of „Maistas" are bacon and live pigs. Bacon is sold exclusively to England, and live pigs to the U. S. S. R. and Germany. The export of bacon reached its peak precisely in the crisis years 1932 and 1933, and was largely instrumental in equalizing the shrinkage of export of other

articles in our trade-balance at that time, which must be entered to the credit account of „Maistas". When after the Ottawa Conference England greatly expanded her imports of agrarian products from the Dominions, to the detriment of her former European suppliers, our bacon exports also receded, whereby the export structure of „Maistas" was materially altered. The following two comparative tables elucidate this relationship:

I. The Structure of English Bacon Imports

	1931	1936	1937
England's bacon imports, in million £ ..	33.1	27.3	29.3
Including in % from:			
Dominions	0.5	15.7	19.2
European countries ...	97.7	84.1	80.7

II. The Bacon Exports of „Maistas"

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Exports of bacon, in million litas.	30.3	32.5	37.7	27.6	15.0	20.3	20.8
Share of bacon exports in total export of „Maistas" in %	70.6	76.0	89.0	79.1	45.9	47.4	44.4

Although bacon sales in recent years have receded **ad valorem** by nearly half (and quantitatively by more than half), „Maistas" was able, through the transposition of export to other articles, chiefly live pigs, but also through the building up of poultry and canned goods export, not only to make good the recession of bacon exports, but also in 1937 **ad valorem** to overtake by 9.3% the pre-crisis position (1931) of its total export trade.

Lithuania's total export of corresponding products during the same period not only, under the operation of the fall in prices, declined **ad valorem** by 54% but also quantitatively (on the basis of the price-index of Lietuvos Bankas) by 25%.

438 The home-trade turnover of „Maistas", which maintains
● 473 47 places of sale for meat and canned provisions throughout Lithuania, has constantly grown. In 1927 it amounted to 4 400 000 litas; in 1936 it had already reached 10 100 000 litas; and in 1937 it had risen to 13 100 000 litas.

4. The Rôle of the Cooperative Societies

474 The significance of the cooperatives in our trade can best
438 be illustrated by the fact that their sales in 1937 amounted to more than 200 000 000 litas. During the last ten years they have quadrupled in value, and quantitatively even increased eightfold.

The course of this expansion can be studied in the following table:

Sales of the Cooperative Societies (in 1 000 litas)

Year	„Lietūkis"	Trade Cooperatives	„Pienocentras"	Total
1928	12 129	23 520	13 662	49 311
1929	29 393	52 255	25 999	108 647
1930	23 117	44 992	43 854	111 963
1931	36 743	44 950	46 102	127 795
1932	28 853	37 314	45 182	111 349
1933	32 063	37 534	36 163	105 760
1934	37 617	37 342	36 329	111 288
1935	60 530	46 427	42 438	149 395
1936	73 715	55 560	55 897	185 172
1937	72 823	65 046	65 730	203 599

The Union of Agricultural Cooperative Societies of Lithuania „Lietūkis", which was founded in 1923 and in the first year of its existence counted only 26 cooperative societies as members, and whose annual sales from 1923 to 1929 on an average amounted to 10 000 000 litas, since the revision and amendment of the statutes in 1930, has become the most important commercial undertaking of Lithuania. The aims which it pursues consist, in the sense of the by-laws, in promoting agriculture

APPENDIX

ECONOMIC FIGURES

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	1929	1930
INDUSTRY:		
1. Total number of medium and wholesale undertakings (of 5 employed persons upwards)	1 044	1 051
2. Total number of employed workers	19 637	19 334
3. Total figure of engine power in H. P.	.	.
4. Production Index	100.0	108.3
TRADE:		
474 / 473 1. Total number of larger undertakings (Trade in the narrower sense I — III Corp)	14 255	14 224
439 2. Railway goods traffic 1 000 tons	2 079	1 993
3. Price Index	100	87
4. Foreign Trade Turnover:		
(a) Million Litas	636.3	646.2
(b) Volume	100,0	116.7
5. Cooperative Trade Turnover, million litas	108.6	111.9
FINANCE AND CREDIT CONDITIONS:		
652 1. Monetary circulation, in million litas	102.3	117.2
452 2. State Revenue, in million litas	338.5	347.7
453 3. State Expenditure, in million litas	269.9	320.6
4. Deposits of the Credit Institutions, in million litas	282.8	345.7
5. Loans of the Credit Institutions, in million litas	333.0	437.8
6. Total Sums of Bills of Exchange Protests, in million litas	49.1	40.1
7. Discount Rate of the Lietuvos Bankas	7	7

OF LITHUANIA.

1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	433
1 049	1 105	1 108	1 118	1 136	1 135	1 247	
21 053	19 743	20 660	22 282	23 344	25 844	31 689	
70 038	84 804	95 751	94 585	105 349	109 634	125 157	
140.7	153.7		166.5	185.9	244.2	272.0	
							494
14 141	13 590	12 981	12 572	12 084	12 054	12 445	493
2 164	1 599	1 722	1 853	2 003	2 193	2 352	489
74	61	54	52	46	46	53	
551.1	356.1	302.4	285.9	280.8	346.5	420.9	
128.3	106.6	102.2	103.2	103.9	125.2	139.3	
127.8	111.3	105.8	111.3	149.4	185.2	203.6	
127.1	112.7	105.8	101.1	111.4	124.1	131.9	452
340.1	292.0	256.9	264.4	279.9	302.8	329.9	452
335.3	278.2	249.7	251.8	276.9	287.7	318.2	453
302.0	291.2	278.4	269.5	229.6	290.2	347.6	
479.6	449.5	446.5	461.9	451.5	467.3	501.4	
67.5	71.7	39.3	32.5	23.5	13.9	12.9	
8½	7	7	6	6	5½	5½	

11: League of Nations G-4 (no date) 1939 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

IV. ORGANISATION OF MARKETS

The action of the Government and of the central agricultural organisations with a view to the organisation of markets and the standardisation of agricultural products may be briefly summarised as follows :

To enable the small agricultural undertakings (which predominate in the country) to produce standardised agricultural products for foreign (and home) markets and to export in large quantities, the Government, even before the world depression, had taken steps to combine the small agriculturists into big central organisations (dealing both with production and marketing). The following three organisations were founded : (1) " Lietuvos Žemės Kooperatyvų Sąjunga " (Lithuanian Union of Agricultural Co-operative Societies). abbreviated to " Lietūkis ", which now centralises all cereal exports ; (2) " Centralinė Lietuvos Pienos Perdirbimo Bendrovių Sąjunga " (Lithuanian Central Union of Dairymen's Co-operative Societies), abbreviated to " Pienocentras ", which now centralises the production of butter for export and the export of butter and eggs ; (3) the " Maistas " joint-stock company (the shareholders being the State and the pig-breeders), which at present centralises the production of bacon and other meat preparations for export and also the export of the meat preparations, animals for slaughter and poultry. In 1930, a joint-stock company

Chamber of Agriculture at Kaunas.

11 League of Nations G-4 (no date) 1939 RBS Lithuanians RBS

473 known as " Lietuvos Cukrus " was founded (the shareholders being the State and sugar-beet-growers), and this centralises all sugar manufacture.

439 To improve the quality of agricultural produce for export, the Government controls the export of meat (since 1925), butter (since 1927), eggs (since 1927), linseed (since 1925) and flax (since 1926, the control having been further tightened up in 1934). The centralisation of exports of agricultural produce greatly facilitates export control and increases its efficacy.

435 At the time of the fall in the prices of agricultural produce on foreign markets, the Government, to stimulate supplies for export, fixed minimum prices for the pigs bought by the " Maistas " company, the milk supplied to the dairymen's co-operative societies and cream-separating centres (all the dairymen's co-operative societies in the country are affiliated to the " Pienocentras "), the eggs bought by the " Pienocentras " and the cereals bought by the " Lietūkis ". In this way, agricultural prices have been maintained with the co-operation of the three central organisations.

651 Various measures have been adopted with a view to the reduction of costs of production. As long ago as 1933, the rate of interest on mortgage loans was lowered ; the total of the land taxes payable by agriculturists during the years 1935 and 1936 was reduced by 10%. Agriculturists leaving their villages and settling on self-contained undertakings are exempt from Government land taxes for a period of one year (this privilege is enjoyed by all agriculturists who have taken over separate undertakings since 1932). Agriculturists who, having taken over separate undertakings since 1932, are obliged to change their place of residence (and such is the case with more than half of those concerned) receive from the Ministry of Agriculture a stated
435 quantity of wood at 20% of the normal sale price. Under the price-control system introduced in 1935, maximum prices have been fixed for chemical fertilisers, bran, feeding-cakes, petroleum and certain other articles which are of particular importance to agriculture. For the 1938 autumn sowings, the Government (in conjunction with the " Lietūkis ") has reduced the price of chemical fertilisers by itself paying the cost of railway transport.

000 In conclusion, it may be said that, in spite of the agricultural depression which made its appearance some five or six years ago and which has not yet entirely ceased, the Lithuanian agriculturist is at present in a better position than he was before the war ; he is better fed and better clothed and has more money to spare for his cultural needs.[1]

[1] A detailed description of the progress made in this sphere and of the activities of the institutions and organisations for the promotion of agriculture is to be found in the work entitled *Agriculture in Lithuania*, by Professor J. KRIKŠČIŪNAS, published by the Chamber of Agriculture, Kaunas, 1938.

11: League of Nations G-4 (no date) 1939 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

the most varied types were founded. To the functions they already performed — provision of credit for agriculturists, supplying of consumption goods and agricultural requirements, encouragement of the use of selected seeds and pure-bred stock, co-operative manufacture of milk products — they added the purchase of agricultural produce and the organisation of its sale in foreign markets. Cereals, vegetables, potatoes, linseed, eggs, flax and other agricultural products were previously inadequately prepared both for home and for foreign markets, with the result that the prices received by the peasant were low. The co-operative societies have improved the marketing of agricultural produce; standards have been laid down

Co-operative dairy.

and are rigorously adhered to. The Government has also helped to regulate this aspect of rural life by the enactment of laws on the control of agricultural produce, the texts of which were prepared by the co-operative organisations themselves. These organisations have also given proof of initiative in organising and developing the export of cattle and pigs. At a time when the export of bacon and live animals could only be handled with difficulty by private enterprise, the unions of co-operative societies acquired a very extensive undertaking for the export of live-stock, developed it and subsequently made it over to the "Maistas" joint-stock company. This rendered possible the efficient export of meat and, more particularly, bacon and poultry.